



## Save the Dates

### Preparation For Practice Course

Every Wednesday  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021

25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
(Residential and online blend)

### Symposium 2022

27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> March

## Welcome to our Summer Newsletter 2021.

We are now in a season of looking forward and in the process of working with parish nurses who not only continue to adapt their ways of working but are also responding to new types and complexities of need. Supporting the bereaved, informal carers and people with mental health issues has always been a feature of parish nursing work but is now even more significant. The complexity of unaddressed need is also a telling symptom of the times and underlines the importance of parish nursing to individuals and communities.

Please join us as we continue to pray for the work of parish nurses and their teams and give thanks for the vital role that parish nursing continues to play in effective Christian outreach.

Data from our most recent activity reporting taken from a selection of services over a three-month period, shows that parish nursing is continuing to play an integral role in the health and wellbeing of the communities it serves:



Interventions to prevent isolation and loneliness

2514



Group interventions to provide health education and promotion

1133



Individual interventions to provide health education and promotion

648



Providing health support for people with long term conditions

890

# Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported our Lent appeal, just over £3000 was raised for PNMUK that will enable us to promote and grow the ministry of parish nursing in the UK.

## News from the field

### Trinity Methodist Church, South Elmsall, Yorkshire.

Parish Nurses have found new and innovative ways to enable them to continue their work during the pandemic. Nicola Hobson, an experienced Parish Nurse to raise awareness of her service. This has allowed her to reach out to a much larger number of people offering them support to overcome the health issues associated with social isolation and bereavement.

Nicola has recently been offering parish nursing services from a gazebo on the church lawn as a temporary measure until her church drop-in service reopens and allowed her to help people outside. She has spoken at our Symposium in the past about her love of the parish nursing role and we know the people in her community will be grateful for all that Nicola has done to continue her ministry during the pandemic.



Parish Nurse Nicola Hobson

### St Goran and St Michael Caerhays, Cornwall.



We have also been pleased to hear about the work of Sarah Male recently. She is currently the only Parish Nurse in Cornwall and has been targeting a lot of her energies on raising awareness about parish nursing so as to encourage others churches and nurses to join her in ministry.

Sarah's role is diverse and some of the duties she has undertaken recently include safeguarding, supporting someone at the end of their life, talking to a young mother who is struggling with financial worries and sleepless nights, explaining hospital letters and procedures to a number of people awaiting treatments.

During the pandemic she has also shared prayer with those who asked for it, provided health education to help dispel vaccination myths and continued to support the isolated and anxious as well as collected and distributed countless prescriptions and made sure meals were delivered to those in need.

Sarah also told us about her strong working partnership with her local GP Surgery stating "I have a positive and therapeutic working relationship with them, which means I can discuss cases and help to get people the help they need quickly. Parish nursing is not just about direct care, it is about helping people to get the best help available and being available in their time of need." Wise words Sarah.

We thank Sarah for the valuable service she is providing and pray that her efforts to grow parish nursing in Cornwall, bear fruit.

### St Mark's, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.



Caroline Gallagher, a new parish nurses at St Marks, Wellingbrough, recently enjoyed a commissioning service supported by her Regional Nurse Coordinator Barbara Griffiths. The ceremony itself went very well, but Caroline was called to her first duty as a Parish Nurse with a medical emergency at the event! We are happy to report the individual involved is recovering well and we wish Caroline luck in her new role.

## St Matthews Church Carver Street in Sheffield



Parish Nurses Michaela and Marjorie, continue to support the needs of a diverse community in Sheffield. Running evening outreach work they are helping the vulnerable on the streets; in making sure they get home safely, help with completing GP registration forms, supporting spiritual wellbeing through prayer, and distributing cheese and pickle sandwiches to those who were hungry and in need.

Michaela and Marjorie also work, out of the 'Moore Market' offering a drop-in service right at the centre of public life, to those needing advice, information, and a safe space to talk. This month to celebrate carers week, they produced a short video on the role of carers, encouraged carers who needed support and advice, to attend their drop-in service. Offering refreshments to thank them for the essential service they provide.

All the acts of Christian love provided by this team, will have had a huge impact on the quality of life of others.

## Other news

### Education and training

We have continued to fulfil our mission of enabling parish nurses to begin their ministry throughout the pandemic by offering our unique Preparation for Parish Nursing Practice Programme online and we thank Sheena, Anne and the other educators involved the work they have carried out to develop this.

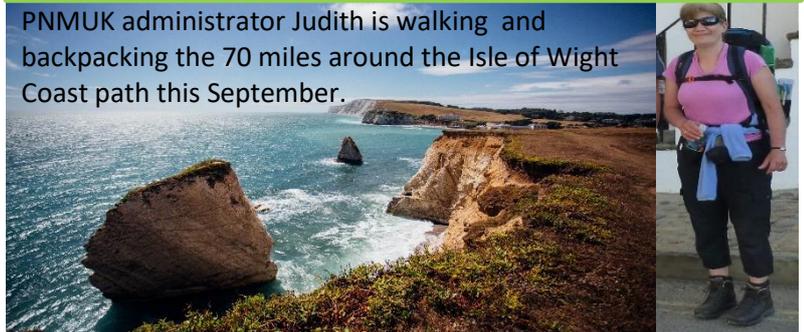
As a result, we are pleased to be able to welcome those who attended the most recent programme to the parish nursing family.

We send congratulations to the 5 nurses who have successfully completed their portfolio and have become fully certificated parish nurses. As well as the parish nursing services that have recently received their accredited status.

**New Trustee** We welcome Joyce Fletcher to our trustee team. She brings a wealth of experiences as a senior mental health nurse, most recently as strategic advisor to the Chief Nurse Officer of England in the faith response to Covid.

### Isle of Wight Sponsored Walk in aid of PNMUK.

PNMUK administrator Judith is walking and backpacking the 70 miles around the Isle of Wight Coast path this September.



If you would like to sponsor Judith please send donations to PNMUK through JustGiving via our website [www.parishnursing.org.uk](http://www.parishnursing.org.uk) or by cheque to PNMUK 26 Hope Street, Peterborough PE1 2RA. Thank you.

### **A message from our Director of Nursing Anne Taylor**

May is a notable month for nurses. Commemorating Florence Nightingale's birth in 1820, 12<sup>th</sup> May is International Day of the Nurse and Midwife and was marked this year with the added poignancy of remembering the lives given and extraordinary lengths taken by the profession in the world-wide response to the pandemic. Parish Nursing Sunday falls in May to coincide with the International Day of the Nurse and Midwife and hearing about some of your celebrations has been fabulous. Some of us also joined our friends at CMF as they marked two weeks of prayer for midwives and nurses with a wonderful online festival and a beautiful live-streamed service from Westminster Abbey, organised by the Florence Nightingale Foundation to commemorate Florence Nightingale on 12<sup>th</sup> May, was also 'attended' by a number of us, despite ongoing pandemic restrictions.

And so we pray for God's strength and for resources, skill and knowledge and the clarity of wisdom to continue to respond well to all that is asked of us, Amen.

*Anne Taylor* PNMUK Director of Nursing